

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A cushioned banding anchor for securement of a load to a loading platform having a frame attachment by use of a band having a loop at least at one end, comprising:

a banding anchor body having a cushioned roller retained within an inside aperture of the anchor body, said cushioned roller being designed to be positioned within the loop of the band; and

said banding anchor body having a loop portion at one end for connecting to the frame attachment of the loading platform, and wherein at least a portion of a connecting structure associated with said frame attachment passes through said inside aperture and is retained by said loop portion.

2. (original) The anchor of claim 1 when the anchor body comprises a top part and downwardly extending sides merging into said loop portion, said loop portion comprising two angle portions meeting at a rounded portion.

3. (original) The anchor of claim 1 wherein a bolt through said loop portion connects said anchor body to a shackle which loops around said frame attachment of the loading platform.

4. (original) The anchor of claim 3 wherein said bolt comprises a hex bolt having a lock nut.

5. (currently amended) A cushioned banding anchor for securement of a load to a loading platform having a frame attachment by use of a band having a loop at least at one end, comprising:

a banding anchor body having a cushioned roller retained within an inside aperture of the anchor body, said cushioned roller being designed to be positioned within the loop of the band;

said banding anchor body having a loop portion at one end for connecting to the frame attachment of the loading platform;

the anchor comprising a top part and downwardly extending sides merging into said loop portion, said loop portion comprising two angle portions meeting at a rounded portion; and

~~The anchor of claim 2 wherein~~ said downwardly extending sides have double angled edges with a widest portion of each side being located where an aperture is provided in each side for receiving a bolt passing through a middle aperture of said cushioned roller for retaining the cushioned roller within said inside aperture of the anchor body.

6. (original) The anchor of claim 5 wherein said bolt comprises a hex bolt with a lock nut.

7. (original) The anchor of claim 1 when said cushioned roller is retained within said inside aperture of the anchor body by a bolt about which the cushioned roller freely rotates.

8. (original) The anchor of claim 1 wherein said cushioned roller comprises a central aperture surrounded by an elastomeric material.

9. (original) The anchor of claim 8 wherein said elastomeric material comprises polyurethane.

10. (original) The anchor of claim 1 wherein said cushioned roller comprises an elastomeric cylindrical roller having a central aperture surrounded by elastomeric material which in turn is surrounded by an outer steel tube.

11. (original) The anchor of claim 1 wherein said cushioned roller comprises an elastomeric cylindrical roller comprising a central aperture surrounded by an inner

steel tube, followed by an outer elastomeric material cylindrical core, followed by an outer steel tube.

12. (original) The anchor of claim 1 wherein said loading platform comprises a railroad car.

13. (currently amended) A cushioned banding anchor system for securement of a load to a loading platform by use of a band having a loop at least at one end, comprising:

~~the~~ a banding anchor body having a cushioned roller retained within an inside aperture of the anchor body, said cushioned roller being designed to be positioned within the loop of the band;

said banding anchor body having a loop portion at one end; and

a connecting member which connects said loop portion to the loading platform, and wherein at least a portion of the connecting member passes through said inside aperture and is retained by said loop portion.

14. (currently amended) The anchor system of claim 13 wherein said connecting member comprises a shackle having a rounded portion which loops around a frame attachment connected to the loading platform ~~and~~, said shackle has side legs with apertures, and a bolt passing through said side leg apertures and positioned through said loop portion of said banding anchor body.

15. (currently amended) The anchor system of claim 14 wherein the frame attachment comprises a bar around which said shackle loops, said bar being attached to the ~~load~~ loading platform by downwardly extending ears which support the bar.

16. (currently amended) A cushioned banding anchor system for securement of a load to a loading platform by use of a band having a loop at least at one end, comprising:

the banding anchor body having a cushioned roller retained within an inside aperture of the anchor body, said cushioned roller being designed to be positioned within the loop of the band;

said banding anchor body having a loop portion at one end;

a connecting member which connects said loop portion to the loading platform; and

~~The system according to claim 13 wherein~~ said connecting member comprising a frame attachment is mounted to the loading platform and comprises an inverted U-shaped attachment having a rounded bridge portion which engages through said loop portion of the anchor body.

17. (original) The anchor system according to claim 13 wherein a frame attachment is connected to the loading platform which comprises an inverted U-shaped attachment having a bridge portion, and wherein said connecting member comprises a triangular-shaped link passing under said bridge portion and linking said bridge portion to said anchor body loop portion.

18. (currently amended) The anchor system according to claim 13 wherein said connecting member comprises a frame attachment is connected to the loading platform and comprises a stake pocket having a pocket well with an aperture, a bolt passing through the said stake pocket aperture, and the bolt attaching to side legs of a shackle through apertures in the side legs, and a rounded portion of said shackle looping around said loop portion.

19. (original) The anchor system according to claim 13 wherein said loading platform comprises a railroad car.

20-24 (cancelled).